

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 06678 131637Z

43

ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 AID-20 PRS-01 SS-20

NSC-07 SP-03 PM-07 INR-11 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 /109 W

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R 131603Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1428

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L L I M A 6 6 7 8

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE ASSESSES CHILE REFUGEE PROBLEM

REF: LIMA 5387

1. EMBOFFS MET WITH DEPARTING UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE, DR. CESAR BERTA, AUGUST 9 AND RECEIVED FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT OF CHILEAN REFUGEE SITUATION IN PERU.

2. BERTA STATES THAT APPROXIMATELY 170 REFUGEES ARRIVE MONTHLY FROM CHILE AND 120 DEPART FOR RESETTLEMENT IN OTHER COUNTRIES. APPROXIMATELY 25 PERCENT OF THOSE LEAVING CHILE ARE NOT LEGITIMATE REFUGEES AND ARE REFUSED REGISTRATION. BERTA NOTED THAT THE NUMBER OF NON-POLITICAL REFUGEES IS RISING. HE ESTIMATED UN WILL SPEND \$5 MILLION ON CHILEAN REFUGEES BY END OF 1975. MORE THAN \$700,000 SPENT IN PERU IN LAST SEVEN MONTHS; 800 CHILEANS HAVE BEEN RESETTLED AND 800 MORE AWAIT RESETTLEMENT. REFUGEES SETTLED IN 20 COUNTRIES, MORE THAN 75 PERCENT TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. RUSSIA HAS REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANY AS HAVE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT ARGENTINA, WHERE HE ESTIMATES 10 TO 15 THOUSAND CHILEANS ADMITTED.

3. PERUVIAN CONSUL IN ARICA, CHILE NOW GIVING VISAS FOR ONLY SHORT STAY (5 - 50 DAYS) TO PEOPLE COMING ACROSS BORDER
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PAGE 02 LIMA 06678 131637Z

INSTEAD OF USUAL 90 DAY VISA. RESULT IS PEOPLE NOW COME

SOONER TO UNHCR OFFICE AND IT HAVING TROUBLE PROCESSING AND RESETTLING REFUGEES DURING TIME ALLOWED FOR STAY IN PERU BY VISA. VISA NOT RENEWABLE.

4. HE SAID HE NOT ATTEMPTING TO RESETTLE REFUGEES IN U.S. AS HE WILL AWARE OF RESTRICTIONS AND WAITING PERIOD REQUIRED BY U.S. IMMIGRATION LAWS. HE NOTED THAT RELAXATION OF REQUIREMENTS BY U.S. TO ADMIT SOME REFUGEES, AS RECENTLY DONE BY UK WHICH RECENTLY AGREED TO ACCEPT 300, WOULD HELP ALLEVIATE PROBLEM IN PERU. HE ADDED THAT EVEN IF REFUGEES ACCEPTED BY U.S., UNHCR RELUCTANT TO PAY PASSAGE WITHOUT ASSURANCE OF EMPLOYMENT WAITING FOR THEM.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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